



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

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INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, MAY 1982

PHONE INQUIRIES *for more information about these statistics—contact Mr Geoff Winter on Canberra (062) 52 6576 or any of our State offices.*

other inquiries including copies of publications—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.

MAIL INQUIRIES *write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.*

MAIN FEATURES

The reduced number of disputes and working days lost evident since February 1982 continued in May with 117,100 working days lost in 203 disputes.

Excluding figures for December and January which are traditionally low, working days lost for the three months ended May 1982 (380,900 working days lost) were the lowest for any three months since the period February to April 1978 (380,700 working days lost).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

More detailed information about disputes appears in the quarterly publication *Industrial Disputes, Australia* (6322.0).

2. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), described in *Australian Standard Industrial Classification, 1978, Vol. 1* (1201.0).

Coverage

3. The statistics refer only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who, are not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

4. Stoppages of work occurring at different times and at different establishments, but having a common cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However, an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State and in the

total for Australia. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Average days lost per worker involved on a monthly basis are not comparable with the yearly averages, because workers involved are included in each month in which they are involved in disputes, while they are counted once only for each dispute in the annual statistics.

Related publications

5. Users may also wish to refer to the following publication:

Industrial Disputes, Australia (6322.0)—quarterly and annual.

6. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- p preliminary—figure subject to revision
- r revised
- nil or rounded to zero

7. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost		Estimated loss in wages(a) (\$'000)
	Commenced in period	Total(a)	Newly involved(b)	Total(a)	Number(a) ('000)	Average days per worker involved(c)	
1979	2,040	2,042	1,861.6	1,862.9	3,964.4	2.1	148,614
1980	2,420	2,429	1,165.2	1,172.8	3,320.2	2.8	152,022
1981 p	2,887	2,915	1,229.1	1,251.8	4,192.2	3.3	221,779
1981—							
April	199	269	46.1	91.5	176.2	1.9	9,765
May	276	341	67.6	107.7	216.4	2.0	11,301
June	236	313	118.5	167.6	367.3	2.2	19,372
July	263	354	95.0	171.7	510.8	3.0	26,295
August	233	311	77.6	113.0	237.1	2.1	12,865
September	299	360	106.2	141.6	342.2	2.4	19,889
October p	291	363	139.9	178.5	517.6	2.9	26,713
November(d) p	254	321	313.4	400.1	944.5	2.4	49,836
December p	150	208	58.7	132.4	223.3	1.7	12,197
1982—							
January p	140	155	40.5	71.2	461.9	6.5	28,314
February p	207	221	80.8	85.6	131.9	1.5	7,583
March p	204	223	49.3	76.4	156.4	2.0	9,243
April p	138	170	32.9	59.4	107.4	1.8	6,623
May p	181	203	66.1	71.3	117.1	1.6	6,669

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Comprises workers involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional workers involved in disputes which continued from the previous month. (c) Monthly figures are not comparable with yearly figures. (d) Excludes employees stood down as a result of a dispute involving meat inspectors.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES(a) : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	Manufacturing				Transport and storage; Communication			Other industries (b)	All industries
	Coal	Mining Other	Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other	Construction	Stevedoring services	Other		
1979	232.6	283.6	929.7	749.0	359.7	114.3	435.8	859.7	3,964.4
1980	710.7	197.7	615.9	728.4	217.9	73.4	142.5	633.7	3,320.2
1981 p	318.3	307.4	1,221.6	654.1	441.9	59.3	406.2	783.3	4,192.2
1981—									
April	12.6	9.8	68.5	12.3	28.6	7.1	18.1	19.2	176.2
May	11.6	29.2	109.6	16.8	23.2	3.5	11.4	11.1	216.4
June	34.3	22.8	105.4	66.1	36.5	1.0	66.6	34.5	367.3
July	32.1	35.9	74.2	54.0	59.8	0.3	142.9	111.5	510.8
August	26.1	28.3	62.2	36.8	21.5	0.8	19.7	41.7	237.1
September	36.6	36.1	144.6	69.1	11.9	1.6	9.5	32.8	342.2
October p	14.5	22.6	179.4	100.0	86.6	7.7	22.2	84.6	517.6
November(c) p	93.6	27.2	293.8	222.9	119.2	9.6	17.6	160.6	944.5
December p	17.5	9.8	24.3	25.4	6.5	14.5	27.7	97.5	223.3
1982—									
January p	395.1	10.1	15.3	15.8	7.8	3.9	2.2	11.8	461.9
February p	6.7	8.0	17.2	10.8	23.8	0.6	35.1	29.8	131.9
March p	6.9	24.0	8.9	19.5	29.2	0.2	9.4	58.3	156.4
April p	3.4	35.0	11.6	15.6	11.5	0.5	15.9	13.7	107.4
May p	7.3	10.2	26.7	33.4	18.6	2.4	4.7	13.8	117.1

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L. (c) See footnote (d) to Table 1.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES(a) : WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (b)
1979	1,369.9	1,486.1	467.9	186.5	348.1	59.8	3,964.4
1980	1,208.6	1,115.4	618.7	59.4	191.0	91.5	3,320.2
1981 p	1,918.6	1,235.5	465.8	158.8	244.0	64.3	4,192.2
1981—							
April	87.0	41.7	27.1	7.5	7.2	0.2	176.2
May	121.8	36.0	29.4	4.6	15.3	1.0	216.4
June	144.5	99.3	68.2	20.0	26.0	3.1	367.3
July	129.1	132.9	89.6	48.3	64.0	18.7	510.8
August	109.3	44.5	37.6	6.5	24.3	5.7	237.1
September	148.2	105.9	39.1	7.6	20.4	6.9	342.2
October p	198.8	233.1	27.6	17.3	20.0	8.6	517.6
November(c) p	450.8	381.2	58.9	21.5	19.7	11.2	944.5
December p	117.7	61.3	9.1	11.6	11.6	4.2	223.3
1982—							
January p	356.0	14.1	63.6	3.4	19.6	3.8	461.9
February p	57.2	20.1	27.6	11.0	13.5	0.5	131.9
March p	72.6	16.0	24.5	7.7	22.3	2.4	156.4
April p	29.9	11.9	18.9	4.4	27.9	13.5	107.4
May p	45.7	45.3	8.0	1.3	9.7	5.6	117.1

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (c) See footnote (d) to Table 1.